



Students Shine in Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship Program

Ten weeks of intensive scientific research came to an end August 4 for 10 undergraduate students who were Ames Laboratory interns this summer. The students were at the Lab to participate in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship program, which is sponsored by the Department of Energy's Office of Science. SULI is a nationwide program to bring students interested in careers in science and engineering into DOE laboratories to conduct research under the mentorship of laboratory scientists.

Fifty students applied for the Ames Lab internship program this year. The ten who were selected were from Pennsylvania State University, Ohio State University, Westminster College, University of Kansas, Carnegie Mellon University, Western Illinois University, Moraine Valley Community College, Michigan Technological University, Brigham Young University, and the Colorado School of Mines. The students' mentors were Surya Mallapragada, Andreja Bakac, Masha Sosonkina, John Verkade, Troy Benjegerdes, Edward Yu, Richard Larock, Barbara and Tom Lograsso, Forrest Nutter and Michael Tringides. Mallapragada, Bakac and Sosonkina were second-year mentors.

By the end of the 10-week internship, which was two weeks longer than the 2005 program, students were required to produce a research paper or PowerPoint presentation. Nine of this year's students will submit papers to either the DOE *Journal of Undergraduate Research* or another journal of their and their mentors' choosing.

Besides working with their mentors in their labs, students spent time visiting other research labs and listening to talks given by scientists and others. One student summarized the SULI experience by saying, "I feel this was a great learning experience, which has opened my eyes to pursuing a graduate degree."

The Public Affairs Office, which coordinates the program, would like to thank all mentors, tour providers and speakers for their contributions to this year's SULI program. ■



Andreja Bakac (center) helps SULI student Magdalena Furczon make a point about her poster.



DeAnna Jones inspects a gadolinium alloy as Karl Gschneider explains its properties.

~ Steve Karsjen



Vice Provost for Research John Brighton speaks to students about the importance of getting a PhD.



Caleb Klapp tests the strength of a solder joint while mentor Iver Anderson looks on.